Attorney Docket No: 18396/2032 (Serial No.: 09/886,899)

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Filed: June 21, 2001

Amendment and Response to Office Action

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The following Listing of the Claims will replace all prior versions and all prior listing of the claims in the present application:

Listing of the Claims:

- 1. (Currently Amended) A method for isolating a pluripotent cell which is at least partially committed to a given developmental pathway comprising the steps of:
 - (a) selecting a population of pluripotent cells;
- (b) detecting Sox gene expression of a Sox gene selected from the group consisting of Sox15, Sox16 and any one of the Sox genes-provided in Table 1;
 - (c) sorting the cells according to Sox gene expression; and
 - (d) isolating those cells which express a Sox gene.
- 2. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said population of cells is derived from CNS tissue.
- 3. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said population of cells is derived from a cell culture.
- 4. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said Sox gene expression is detected by nucleic acid hybridization.
- 5. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said Sox gene expression is detected by binding of a SOX polypeptide or a SOX nucleic acid corresponding to mRNA to a detectable ligand.
- 6. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the detectable ligand is a labeled immunoglobulin.

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7. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein said detectable ligand is a labeled oligonucleotide complementary to Sox mRNA.

8. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said Sox gene expression is detected by FACS analysis.

Claims 9-15 (Withdrawn)

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, 9 or 13, wherein said Sox gene is a member of Sox Group A.

17. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein said Sox gene is Sox1 or Sox2.

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